



# PROCLAMATION

By The *PRESIDENT* and *COUNCIL* of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of *NEW-ENGLAND* in *AMERICA*.

**W**HEREAS We have received from His most Excellent Majesty our Sovereign Lord *JAMES* the Second, KING of *ENGLAND*, *SCOTLAND*, *FRANCE* and *IRELAND*, Defender of the Faith &c. The Exemplification of a Judgment in His High Court of Chancery under His Majesty's Great Seal of England, bearing Date the 1<sup>st</sup> of *October* in the 1<sup>st</sup> year of His Majesty's said Reign; against the Governor and Company of the *Massachusetts Bay* in *New-England*: whereby the Government thereof & all the Members thereunto belonging is now in His Majesty's hands.

And His Majesty having been graciously pleased to declare that He is minded to give all Protection and Encouragement to all His good Subjects therein, and to provide in the most effectual Manner that due and Impartial Justice may be administered in all Cases Civil and Criminal and all Care taken for the quiet and orderly Government of the same.

And in order thereunto it having pleased His most Excellent Majesty by His Commission bearing Date the eight Day of *October*, in the first year of His Majesty's said Reign under the great Seal of England to erect and constitute a *PRESIDENT* and *COUNCIL* to take Care of all that His Territory and Dominion of *New-England* called the *Massachusetts Bay*, the Provinces of *New-Hampshire* & *Maine*, and the *Narraganset Country*, otherwise called the *Kings-Province*, with all the Islands, Rights and Members thereunto appertaining; and to Order, Rule and Govern the same according to the Rules, Methods and Regulations specified and declared in the said Commission; Together with His Majesty's Gracious Indulgence in matters of *RELIGION*.

And for the Execution of His Majesty's pleasure in that behalf, His Majesty hath been pleased to appoint *Joseph Dudley* Esq: to be the first *PRESIDENT* of His Majesty's said Council, and *VICE-ADMIRAL* of these Seas. And to Continue in the said Offices until His Majesty shall otherwise direct, and also to nominate & appoint *Simon Bradstreet*, *William Stoughton*, *Peter Bulkley*, *John Pynchon*, *Robert Mason*, *Richard Wharton*, *Wait Winthrop*, *Nathaniel Saltonstall*, *Bartholomew Gidney*, *Jonathan Tyng*, *John Usher*, *Dudley Bradstreet*, *John Hinks*, *Francis Chambernoon*, *Edward Tyng*, *John Fitz-Winthrop*, and *Edward Randolph* Esq's: to be His Majesty's Council in the said Colony and Territories.

The *PRESIDENT* and *Council* therefore being convened according to the Direction & Form in the said Commission, and having taken the Oathes in the said Commission required, & finding it primarily needful, that speedy & effectual Care be taken for the Maintenance & Preservation of the Peace; Have accordingly appointed and authorized *Justices of the Peace* in the several Counties, Precincts, & principal Towns throughout the said several Provinces; & do also hereby continue all & every the Grand Jurys of the several Counties, Constables, Select Towns-men, and such as have lately had the Charge of Watches, in their several and respective Offices, Charge and Trust, till others be orderly appointed to succeed them.

And the said *PRESIDENT* and *Council* doe hereby in His Majesty's Name strictly Charge and require the several *Justices of the Peace*, Select Towns-men, Overseers of the Poor, Surveyors of the High Ways, Constables and other inferior Officers who have had the Care of Watches, and who are now Commissioned or Continued as aforesaid, diligently and faithfully to intend, pursue, and execute their several and respective Offices, Charges and Trusts, for the Preservation of the Peace, and for Suppressing and Discouraging all Disorder and Vice.

And We do hereby require all His Majesty's Subjects within the said Colony and Territories to be Obedient, Aiding, and Assisting to all such *Justices of the Peace*, Constables, and other Officers in the Execution of their several Offices and Places, at their utmost peril. And order that this Proclamation be forth-with Published.

Given from the Council-house in Boston this 25th Day of May Anno Domini 1686. Anno: Regni Regis Jacobi Secundi secundo.

By the President and Council, Edward Randolph Secy.

GOD SAVE THE KING.